## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An oligophosphate of general formula

$$(O)y - P - O$$

wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> independently of each other for each X, denote hydrogen or a C<sub>1-20</sub> alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl or together with the

carbon atom to which they are bonded form

O

or a cycloalkyl or together with corresponding R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> on a different

10 carbon atom X, form a cyclic structure

 $R^3$  to  $R^8$ , independently of each other, denote a  $C_{1-10}$ -alkyl or a halogen,

X denotes carbon,

m denotes an integer of 4 to 7,

n denotes an integer of 1 to 30,

y is 0 or 1, and

q denotes numbers which are independent of each other, and represent an integer of 0 to 5.

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- 2. The oligophosphate according to Claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  or  $R^2$  on a carbon atom X, together with a  $R^{1'}$  or  $R^{2'}$  on a corresponding carbon atom X', form a cycloalkyl structure.
- 5 3. An oligophosphate according to Claim 1 having the following formula

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^{8}_{q} & O \\
\hline
(O)y & P \\
\hline
(O)y & R^{9}_{q} & O \\
\hline
(O)y & R^{6}_{q}
\end{array}$$

wherein  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  independently of each other, denote hydrogen  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl or a halogen, and q denotes numbers which are independent of each other and represent an interger from 0 to 4.

- 4. The oligophosphate according to Claim 1 wherein carbon contained in the cyclic structures is substituted by heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of-O-, -S-, -N-R<sup>1</sup>- and -P-R<sup>1</sup>-.
- 5. The oligophosphate according to Claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> denote hydrogen or a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, R<sup>3</sup> to R<sup>8</sup> denote a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, X
   20 denotes carbon, m = 4 or 5, n denotes an integer from 1 to 15, q denotes an integer from 0 to 5, and y = 1.

- 6. The oligophosphate according to Claims 1 wherein on at least one  $X R^1$  and  $R^2$  simultaneously represent methyl.
  - 7. The oligophosphate according to Claim 1 conforming to

wherein n denotes an integer of 1 to 30.

8. The oligophosphate according to Claim 1 conforming to

- wherein n denotes an integer of 1 to 30.
  - 9. The oligophosphate according to Claim 1 conforming to

wherein n denotes an integer of 1 to 30.

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10. The oligophosphate according to Claim 1 conforming to

wherein n denotes an integer of 1 to 30.

- 5 11. A thermoplastic composition containing at least one thermoplastic resin and the oligophosphate according to Claim 1.
  - 12. The thermoplastic composition according to Claim 10, wherein the thermoplastic resin is a member selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyester carbonate, polyphenylene oxide, polyester, polyamide, polyester amide, vinyl (co)polymer and acrylic/buta-diene/styrene (ABS) copolymer.
- 13. The thermoplastic composition according to Claim 10 comprising a polycarbonate, wherein, with respect to the weight of the composition, said composition contains up to 50 % by weight of a graft polymer comprising 5 to 95 % by weight of that polymer of at least one vinyl monomer grafted on 95 to 5 % by weight of at least one rubber as graft base having a glass transition temperature lower than about 10°C.

14. The thermoplastic composition according to Claim 12, wherein the graft base is a member selected from the group consisting of diene-, EP(D)M-, acrylate- and silicone rubber.

- 15. The thermoplastic composition according to Claim 12, wherein graft rubber is an emulsion- or bulk-polymerized ABS or mixtures thereof.
- 5 16. The thermoplastic composition according to Claim 10 which further contains a fluorinated polyolefin.
  - 17. The thermoplastic composition according to Claim 10, which further contains a nano-scale inorganic material or talc .
    - 18. A molded article comprising the composition of Claim 10.